1	BEFORE THE
2	ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION
3	
4	PUBLIC UTILITY REGULAR OPEN MEETING
5	
6	Chicago, Illinois
7	Tuesday, March 16, 2010
8	Met, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 a.m. in
9	the Video Conference Hearing Room, Eighth Floor,
10	160 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois.
11	
12	PRESENT:
13	MANUEL FLORES, Acting Chairman
14	LULA M. FORD, Commissioner
15	ERIN M. O'CONNELL-DIAZ, Commissioner
16	SHERMAN J. ELLIOTT, Commissioner via videoconference
17	
18	JOHN T. COLGAN, Acting Commissioner via videoconference
19	
20	CILL TYAN DEDODETING COMPANY b
21	SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by Alisa A. Sawka, CSR
22	License No. 084-004588

- 1 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Pursuant to the provisions of
- 2 the Illinois Open Meetings Act, I now convene a
- 3 regularly scheduled open meeting of the Illinois
- 4 Commerce Commission.
- 5 With me in Chicago are Commissioners
- 6 Ford and O'Connell-Diaz. With me in Springfield via
- 7 videoconference are Commissioner Elliott and Acting
- 8 Commissioner Colgan. I am Acting Chairman Flores.
- 9 We have a quorum this morning.
- Before moving into the agenda,
- 11 pursuant to Section 1700.10 of the Illinois
- 12 Administrative Code, this is the time that we allow
- 13 for members of the public to address the Commission.
- 14 Members of the public wishing to address the
- 15 Commission must notify the Chief Clerk's Office at
- 16 least 24 hours prior to the bench session.
- 17 Please be advised that while the
- 18 Commission values the public's participation in the
- 19 public comment period, according to ex parte laws and
- 20 other procedural rules, we are unable to respond.
- 21 However, if members of the public have any questions
- 22 or would like to further -- to make further

- 1 inquiries, please contact our Consumer Services
- 2 Division.
- 3 According to the Chief Clerk's Office,
- 4 we have five requests to speak this morning.
- 5 Speakers are permitted 3 minutes to address the
- 6 Commission.
- 7 First we have Trustee Niemiec.
- 8 Miss Niemiec.
- 9 MS. LAURAL WARD: Ms. Niemiec was unable to
- 10 attend. She had a family emergency.
- 11 CHAIRMAN FLORES: I hope everything is okay.
- 12 Very good. Thank you.
- 13 Next we have Trustee Laural Ward.
- MS. LAURAL WARD: Thank you. Good morning.
- 15 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Good morning.
- 16 MS. LAURAL WARD: My name is Laural Ward. And
- 17 I'm here not as a trustee but as a concerned resident
- of the Village of Homer Glen. I'm concerned because
- 19 our community cannot prosper without access to
- 20 essential services at fair and reasonable rates. I'm
- 21 concerned about Docket No. 09-0319 because we need
- 22 water and sewer to survive, let alone to thrive.

- 1 I'd like to share a short parable to
- 2 express my thoughts about this Illinois American rate
- 3 increase. Please consider the following: A
- 4 gentleman in our community wants to install a paver
- 5 brick driveway. He calls a paver supply company and
- 6 says, I need four pallets of pavers. The supply rep
- 7 explains that she would prepare a quote, but just so
- 8 you know, there will be a charge for delivery and
- 9 four pallets of paver requires a 20-foot truck.
- 10 Homer needs those pavers delivered to
- 11 home his home so I says, I understand, please send me
- 12 the quote. But when he gets the quote he is shocked
- and immediately calls the supply company to inform
- 14 them they've made a mistake. I've asked you for four
- 15 pallets of pavers and you've quoted me five. That's
- 16 right, said the rep. You see, we lost pavers along
- 17 the way, so sometimes the load is not properly
- 18 strapped down and pavers fall off the truck.
- 19 Sometimes the driver stops for lunch and since the
- 20 truck is not secure, people might steal some of the
- 21 pavers. And there are houses in construction in your
- 22 area and they may need pavers for their project and

- 1 they may take some of them, too. So we have to
- 2 charge for five loads of -- pallets of pavers or we
- 3 will lose money.
- 4 Homer is stunned, but he also wants to
- 5 know why he's being charged for two 45-foot trucks
- 6 when he was told he only needed one 20-foot truck.
- 7 Oh, said the rep, trust us. It's better that way.
- 8 We can make more deliveries. If we can get other
- 9 customers that need pavers, we can deliver your order
- 10 then continue on down the road and deliver theirs,
- 11 too. It's more efficient that way and saves money.
- But why are you sending two trucks,
- 13 asks Homer? Oh, no, said the rep, you misunderstand.
- 14 We're not sending two trucks, we're just charging you
- 15 for two. We need to expand our operations in the
- 16 future and we need to buy another truck.
- 17 I don't get it, cries Homer. Why
- 18 should I pay for your lost pavers and your expansion
- 19 plans? Shouldn't that be paid for by the investors
- 20 in your company and repaid by your future customers?
- 21 The rep simply responds, Why should we do that when
- 22 we can charge you?

- 1 So what does Homer do? He does what
- 2 any intelligent consumer does. And he says, No thank
- 3 you, and he calls another supplier. But Homer Glen
- 4 residents don't have that option. We don't have
- 5 another water supply company, neither do our schools
- 6 and our other taxing districts, our businesses, our
- 7 senior citizens, our community organization, our
- 8 charities. The only place we can look is to you, the
- 9 ICC.
- 10 Don't give Illinois America more money
- 11 with the promise that they'll improve things.
- 12 Please, make them improve things first. Make them
- 13 accountable for their business practices, their
- 14 business decisions and their own investments.
- 15 Approving this request is like giving them a blank
- 16 check and saying, Do what you want.
- 17 These are challenging economic times.
- 18 Tell Illinois American the State of Illinois is now
- 19 scrutinizing financial matters and demanding
- 20 accountability. Tell them the State of Illinois will
- 21 be vigilantly protecting ratepayers and helping
- 22 return our state to a position of economic strength.

- 1 So I ask you, what would you do with
- 2 the quote like the one Homer received? Thank you for
- 3 your time.
- 4 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Thank you, Trustee Ward.
- Next we have Avis Gibons.
- 6 MS. AVIS GIBONS: Good morning. Avis Gibons,
- 7 resident of Mount Prospect. I actually want to
- 8 address three dockets before the ICC. Thank you for
- 9 your opportunity and attention.
- The first is 09-0151, approval of
- 11 reconciliation to purchase water and purchase sewer
- 12 charges. Illinois-American Water hasn't offered an
- 13 explanation and justification for increasing the
- 14 maximum tariffed, unaccounted for water percentages
- 15 by 1.25 percent. I ask that you please limit the
- 16 recovery of these costs to the percentages contained
- in Illinois-American Water's tariffs.
- The second docket, 09-0251 on the
- 19 agenda today, proposed implementation of the QIP
- 20 surcharge rider. The Commission has emphasized the
- 21 technicalities in this case and reminded us that a
- 22 rider is not a rate filing. With all due respect,

- 1 this is an artificial distinction as far as customers
- 2 are concerned. Any vehicle that increases our costs
- 3 is a rate increase, whatever terminology is used to
- 4 describe it. Furthermore, the fact that law or rule
- 5 provides for filing of a surcharge rider does not
- 6 relieve the filing entity to need to provide
- 7 justification, whether an additional charge is billed
- 8 in April of 2010 or January of 2011 is irrelevant if
- 9 that surcharge is not justified.
- The third docket, Case 09-0139, the
- 11 proposed general increase in water and sewer rates.
- 12 Illinois-American Water's indicated it is unable to
- 13 lower its costs and must charge more than water
- 14 utilities operated by municipalities. One
- 15 Illinois-American Water witness testified the
- 16 comparison of Illinois-American water rates to
- 17 municipal water rates is, quote, meaningless,
- 18 unquote. It is not meaningless to a customer who
- 19 suffers financial hardship as a result of
- 20 Illinois-American water costs or who loses a home
- 21 sale after the perspective buyer reviews the water
- 22 utility costs or who receives water of lesser quality

- 1 despite a common source, Lake Michigan.
- 2 Compared to the Village of Mount
- 3 Prospect Water Quality Report the Illinois-American
- 4 Water Quality Report indicated detection levels that
- 5 were 23 percent higher for combined radium,
- 6 22 percent higher for nitrates or nitrites, and
- 7 24 percent higher for sodium and positive for
- 8 pathogenic bacteria of fecal origin, which was
- 9 negative in the village report.
- 10 As for its inability to lower costs,
- 11 Illinois-American Water has not indicated that it has
- 12 attempted to negotiate prices with water suppliers or
- 13 other vendors, made meaningful reductions in
- 14 personnel or taken similar steps that other
- 15 organizations have taken to control costs in this
- 16 economic climate. Why should it if the ICC just
- 17 rubber stamps requests to increase rates?
- The proposed ICC order of
- 19 February 22nd, 2010, would grant Illinois-American
- 20 water a 28 -- a 28 percent increase.
- 21 Illinois-American Water customers in Mount Prospect
- 22 already pay twice the costs paid for water and sewer

- 1 service by their neighbors receiving water from the
- 2 municipal system in Mount Prospect. We are
- 3 struggling with unemployment or underemployment,
- 4 increasing property taxes and healthcare premiums,
- 5 and decreasing savings and home values. A 28 percent
- 6 increase of any type could break household budgets
- 7 and it is absolutely unconscionable in the midst of
- 8 this deep recession.
- 9 We ask that the Illinois Commerce
- 10 Commission fulfill its responsibility to assure
- 11 reasonable and affordable rates. Please put people
- 12 before profits. Issue orders denying approval of
- 13 Illinois-American's annual reconciliation surcharges,
- 14 proposed implementation of the OIP surcharge rider
- 15 and proposed general increase in Illinois-American
- 16 Water's water and sewer rates. Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Thank you so much.
- 18 Next we have Robert Boros. Mr. Boros.
- 19 MR. ROBERT BOROS: My name's Robert Boros. I
- 20 live at 1808 Azalea Lane in Mount Prospect. Been
- 21 a -- been there for the last 23 years.
- 22 Last fall at the public hearing in

- 1 Springfield American Water declined to question all
- 2 in -- those in positions to propose water rate
- 3 increase. And they stated that we, the citizens,
- 4 were irrelevant because we were not familiar with
- 5 procedures required for ask -- for a rate increase.
- 6 Here's what I do understand: We, the
- 7 consumers, are the spring from which the money flows.
- 8 We are being squeezed by the lack of increases in
- 9 salaries, unemployment, severe drops in the value of
- 10 the homes and our investments since 2000. While our
- 11 income and nest egg shrink, costs are raising double
- 12 digits for basic services.
- 13 Profit requests for IAW are far beyond
- 14 increases for cost of living. IAW increased at a
- 15 cost of water in my community has risen by 30 percent
- 16 since 2002 and now they want another 28 to
- 17 30 percent.
- 18 What does IAW actually do? The water
- 19 we receive is made drinkable not by IAW, but is
- 20 indirectly supplied by the City of Wilmette. They
- 21 sell it to Glenview who acts as a wholesaler selling
- 22 it to IAW. Glenview charges \$11.90 basic fee plus

- 1 another \$2.23 per thousand gallon charge. IAW then
- 2 charges us additional basic fee of 9.75 and a \$3.71
- 3 per thousand dollar charge. Note, this is 61 percent
- 4 higher than what Glenview charges us for the same
- 5 water.
- 6 IAW charges, again, \$17.75 -- 55 cents
- 7 for wastewater collection. Again, they do not treat
- 8 the wastewater. They only pass it on to water rec.
- 9 Water rec costs for treatment is on our tax bill.
- 10 And this has actually dropped from an average of \$16
- 11 to \$14 on my last tax bill. The only function is
- delivery and removal of water, yet there costs are
- 13 higher than those who refine the water or remove the
- 14 pollutants from our water.
- In my March 2010 water bill, closely
- 16 reflects the costs reflected in the Daily Herald
- 17 article of March 17th, which indicated that the
- 18 charges to the average household is approximately
- 19 double, sometimes four times greater than all the
- 20 surrounding communities. The rates structure for
- 21 waters is also strangely different from other
- 22 utilities and that's something from the ICC.

- 1 71 percent of my water bill is not based on
- 2 usage, but it is based on fees. If one includes the
- 3 water rec -- a cost that can increase to 94 percent
- 4 of my bill. There's no hope of me conserving to a
- 5 lower bill. What can I do? My rate is 94 percent in
- 6 fees. In contrast, my electric bill is based mainly
- 7 on usage and only 15 percent of the total being fees.
- 8 My natural gas bill is similar to the electric bill.
- 9 Commodity costs in kilowatts or therms, reflected in
- 10 my natural gas and electric, are defined to two or
- 11 three decimal points. Water usage rates increase in
- 12 quantum leaps of thousand-gallon units. If I use no
- water, I'm charged the same if I use 1,000 gallons.
- 14 If I use 1,001, my rate goes to the 2,000-gallon
- 15 limit. On gas and electric I can control my amount
- 16 of the bill by conserving. I cannot do that with
- 17 water.
- In closing, we are the public being
- 19 squeezed as I seen in a public hearing in Mount
- 20 Prospect from many, beyond the breaking point.
- 21 Municipalities -- or the people state that if they
- 22 knew the water costs in our community were that high,

- 1 they would have chosen somewhere else to live. And
- 2 that has caught the eye of our municipality.
- 3 ICC is the protecter of the consumer.
- 4 I know companies must make a profit, but 60 percent
- 5 increase in these times seems a bit excessive. These
- 6 types of increase will destroy the source of all of
- 7 revenue if you don't make reasonable decisions. You
- 8 will need to step up and deny or at least drastically
- 9 reduce the proposed rate increase.
- 10 Thank you for allowing me to voice my
- 11 opinion at this hearing.
- 12 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Thank you, Mr. Boros.
- 13 Next we have Karen Behr.
- MS. KAREN BEHR: Behr.
- 15 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Sorry, Miss Behr. Good
- 16 morning.
- 17 MS. KAREN BEHR: I'm also a resident of Mount
- 18 Prospect, and I thank you for your time and
- 19 attention.
- The proposed ICC order of
- 21 February 22nd, 2010, would grant Illinois-America
- 22 Water a 28 percent increase. Where will this

- 1 additional revenue go? According to the March 1st,
- 2 2010 Fourth Quarter 2009 Report of American Water,
- 3 Illinois-American Water's parent company, the
- 4 long-term objectives includes sustaining a dividend
- 5 payout ratio in the 50 to 70 percent range of net
- 6 income. The report indicates that for 2009 operating
- 7 revenues were up 4.4 percent and earnings per share
- 8 increased over 13 percent despite wet weather and a
- 9 poor economy. While the Dow Jones and S&P 500 were
- down 34 percent, American-Water was up 3 1/2 percent.
- 11 And how did they do this? By filing
- 12 rate cases. The report explicitly refers to rate
- 13 cases as a means of, quote, executing our strategy,
- 14 unquote. The report states, Increases were primarily
- 15 a result of recognition of prudent investments
- 16 through rate awards. It doesn't sound like those
- 17 rate awards were used to support infrastructure
- 18 improvements.
- 19 Indeed, while the report references
- 20 American Water's commitment to the investor, there's
- 21 no mention of commitment to the customer. The report
- 22 indicated that net cash provided by operating

- 1 activities increased 8 percent and 2009 cash flow
- 2 from operating activity increased by more than
- 3 15 percent. Meanwhile, the operating expenses
- 4 actually decreased by 10 percent. So business grew
- 5 and dividends paid to shareholders increased by 5
- 6 percent. Yet IAW cries poor and the ICC listens.
- 7 It appears that the ICC has become a
- 8 rubber stamp for Illinois-American Water approving
- 9 tariffs and other charges without requiring adequate
- 10 justification and with complete disregard for the
- 11 concerns and hardships of the people of the State of
- 12 Illinois who've appeared in great numbers in public
- 13 forums and otherwise voiced their concerns to the
- 14 ICC.
- 15 Last week it was reported that
- 16 Illinois unemployment is now in excess of 11 percent.
- 17 Social Security beneficiaries will receive no cost of
- 18 living increase this year. Those on fixed incomes
- 19 who are lucky enough to have some savings earn a rate
- 20 of returns less than 1 percent that FDIC insured
- 21 institution, yet the ICC has issued a proposed order
- 22 that would guarantee IAW a rate of return of nearly

- 1 11 percent. Why such a hefty return when IAW takes
- 2 no risk? The consumers carry all the risk because
- 3 IAW has a complete monopoly in the areas where it
- 4 controls water delivery. Yet the ICC orders IAW
- 5 customers to absorb a 28 percent increase in the cost
- of this basic necessity, water.
- 7 We ask the Illinois Commerce
- 8 Commission to fulfill its responsibility to ensure
- 9 reasonable and affordable rates. To grant a rate
- 10 hike now would ignore the hardships faced by Illinois
- 11 residents and would be a failure of the ICC to act
- 12 responsibly. Please put people before profits.
- 13 Issue orders denying the approval for IAW's annual
- 14 reconciliation surcharges, proposed implementation of
- 15 IAW's QIP and proposed general increase in IAW's
- 16 water and sewer rates. Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Thank you, Miss Behr.
- 18 Those are all the speakers that we
- 19 have scheduled for this morning. Thank you so much
- 20 for your participation and coming before the ICC this
- 21 morning.
- 22 Turning now to our scheduled agenda,

- 1 our first item is approval of minutes from the
- 2 February 22nd, 2010 special open meeting. I
- 3 understand that there are no amendments.
- 4 Is there a motion to approve the
- 5 minutes?
- 6 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: So moved.
- 7 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Is there a second?
- 8 COMMISSIONER FORD: It's been moved and
- 9 seconded.
- 10 All in favor say "aye."
- 11 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 12 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Any opposed?
- 13 (No response.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN FLORES: The vote is 5-0. The minutes
- 15 are approved.
- 16 Item No. 2 is Docket 07-0568, Central
- 17 Illinois Company d/b/a American -- excuse me --
- 18 AmerenCILCO seeks entry of an order approving
- 19 reconciliation of revenues collected under gas
- 20 adjustment charges with actual costs prudently
- 21 incurred. Staff recommends entering the Order
- 22 approving reconciliation.

- 1 Is there a motion to enter the Order
- 2 approving reconciliation?
- 3 COMMISSIONER FORD: So moved.
- 4 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Is there a second?
- 5 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: Second.
- 6 CHAIRMAN FLORES: It's been moved and seconded.
- 7 All in favor say "aye."
- 8 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 9 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Any opposed?
- 10 (No response.)
- 11 CHAIRMAN FLORES: The vote is 5-0. The Order
- 12 is entered.
- 13 We will use this 5-0 vote for the
- 14 remainder of the agenda unless otherwise noted.
- 15 Item No. 3 is Docket 07-0569, Central
- 16 Illinois Public Service Company d/b/a AmerenCIPS,
- 17 seeks entry of an order approving reconciliation of
- 18 revenues collected under gas adjustment charges with
- 19 actual costs prudently incurred. Staff recommends
- 20 entering the Order approving reconciliation.
- Is there any discussion?
- 22 (No response.)

- 1 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Any objections?
- 2 (No response.)
- 3 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Hearing none, the Order is
- 4 entered.
- 5 Items 4 and 5 will be held.
- 6 Item No. 6 is Docket 10-0172, North
- 7 Shore Gas Company has requested special permission in
- 8 order to retain the availability of the residential
- 9 rebate programs under Rider EEP, Enhanced Efficiency
- 10 Program, by revising its Rider EEP on less than the
- 11 required notice. Staff recommends the Commission
- 12 allow the Company's proposal by granting the
- 13 Company's request for special permission.
- 14 Is there any discussion?
- 15 (No response.)
- 16 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Any objections?
- 17 (No response.)
- 18 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Hearing none, the request for
- 19 special permission is granted.
- 20 Item 7 is Docket 09-0251,
- 21 Illinois-American Water company filed a petition
- 22 seeking entry of an order approving Qualifying

- 1 Infrastructure Plan, otherwise known as QIP Surcharge
- 2 Riders.
- The QIP Surcharge Rider would allow
- 4 the Company to recover from customers subject to an
- 5 annual reconciliation process the costs associated
- 6 with qualifying the projects. The Commission held
- 7 oral argument on this docket on February 23rd, 2010.
- 8 Is there any discussion on this
- 9 matter?
- 10 COMMISSIONER COLGAN: Mr. Chairman.
- 11 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Yes, Commissioner Colgan.
- 12 COMMISSIONER COLGAN: I am going to support
- 13 this request because I believe the request has met
- 14 the basic legal standard.
- 15 However, this case is troubling to me.
- 16 The fact that the rider will only be in effect for
- one month seems to be an insignificant basis to have
- 18 put this Commission and the various parties through a
- one-year debate on this issue. And also the Company
- 20 currently has a rate case pending before the
- 21 Commission and that rate case gives us the same
- 22 future test year as the QIP request. And this

- 1 creates questionable and confusing problems in my
- 2 mind.
- In my opinion, this opens the door for
- 4 great confusion on the part of the customers of the
- 5 Company. And in combination with the argument that
- 6 this QIP would only be in effect for a one-month
- 7 period, granting the QIP is questionably not in the
- 8 public interest. And as a result, even though I'm
- 9 going to vote because I think it's met the legal
- 10 standard, I would like to request that the Company
- 11 not implement this QIP.
- 12 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Mr. Chairman?
- 13 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Yes, Commissioner.
- 14 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: I would echo
- 15 Commissioner Colgan's concerns. I think that the
- 16 back-to-back nature of these cases has created this
- one-month application of this QIP, which I think
- 18 really sends the wrong signals to customers and can
- 19 add to confusion rather than clarify things.
- 20 It would be my recommendation to the
- 21 Company that they voluntarily table the application
- of this until 2011. But I, too, will support the

- order that stands, but would strongly recommend that
- 2 the Company consider that that request --
- 3 CHAIRMAN FLORES: And you're referring to the
- 4 QIP; correct?
- 5 COMMISSIONER ELLIOTT: Yes.
- 6 CHAIRMAN FLORES: -- implementation, so the
- 7 record is clear.
- 8 Any further discussion?
- 9 COMMISSIONER O'CONNELL-DIAZ: I would echo the
- 10 concerns that were expressed by Commissioner Colgan.
- 11 I think the Commission is in a tough position because
- 12 the legal sufficiency has been met here, as pointed
- out by Commissioner Colgan. From the standpoint of
- 14 future matters that this Company will have before the
- 15 Commission, I think they hopefully have someone
- listening to this discussion and understand the
- 17 comments that are being made by the Commissioners to
- 18 getting us into this situation. And I would think
- 19 that would be constructive for them to react to the
- 20 comments that we've made here today.
- So, again, we do have a statute here
- 22 that provides for this. So the Commission, I

- think we've -- are judges have -- not rubber-stamped
- 2 this, but we must abide by what the legislative
- 3 mandate is with regard to this issue and that's kind
- 4 of where we are. So... So, I do -- I share the
- 5 concerns cited by Commissioner Colgan and
- 6 Commissioner Elliott.
- 7 COMMISSIONER FORD: I certainly concur with all
- 8 of this. But, once again, it's something
- 9 Commissioner O'Connell-Diaz said, this was given to
- 10 us by our legisl- -- by our state legislature, and we
- 11 are simply following the law.
- 12 CHAIRMAN FLORES: I would also like to
- 13 reiterate that there was an -- Staff analyzed this
- 14 matter not only relying on the statute -- which I
- 15 might add, also explicitly provides for this type of
- 16 rider with the QIP, unlike other riders -- but that
- 17 in addition to the legislative analysis, that there
- 18 was also a reference to the rules that had been set
- 19 forth by this Commission in analyzing such QIP
- 20 requests and that there was an exhaustive analysis.
- 21 That being said, in oral argument it
- 22 was very apparent by the questions and the queries

- 1 made by the Commissioners, and obviously as a stated
- 2 here today, that there is a deep concern by this
- 3 Commission with regards to the potential for
- 4 confusion -- customer confusion, and also in that
- 5 vein, ensuring that customers understand and -- what
- 6 they are being charged for and that they have that
- 7 right and that that right should be preserved and
- 8 protected.
- 9 I also stand with the other
- 10 Commissioners in making their recommendation that the
- 11 Company table its application until 2011 given that
- 12 there is also a pending rate case in which, as
- 13 Commissioner Colgan has already indicated, we're
- 14 using the same test year.
- So to the extent that this Commission
- 16 is bound by the rules that -- and the laws that it
- 17 must adhere to, it is exercising its rightful
- 18 discretion in making this recommendation, strong
- 19 recommendation to the Company that it address the
- 20 public policy concern that we share and that we are
- 21 strongly expressing today, and recommend that
- implementation be delayed until 2011.

- 1 Is there any further discussion on
- 2 this matter?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN FLORES: That being said, I believe
- 5 that everyone is in accord with the recommendation
- 6 made by Staff and that there are five votes in
- 7 support of order of -- of granting the Order, again,
- 8 with the caveat that we have this -- made this
- 9 recommendation to the Company to table the
- 10 application until 2011.
- 11 But let the record reflect that the
- 12 Order is granted.
- 13 Item 8 is Docket 09-0319. The Village
- of Homer Glen, St. Joseph and Savoy, and the City of
- 15 Champaign and Urbana as well as the People of the
- 16 State of Illinois request oral argument pursuant to
- 17 Title 83, Section 200.850 of the Illinois
- 18 Administrative Code.
- The Commission is prepared to schedule
- 20 oral argument for Tuesday, March 23rd at 1:00 p.m. at
- 21 the Commission's offices in Springfield.
- Is there any discussion?

- 1 (No response.)
- 2 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Any objections?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Hearing none, the request is
- 5 approved and notice will be sent to the parties.
- Judge Wallace, are there any other
- 7 matters to come before the Commission, sir?
- 8 JUDGE WALLACE: No, sir. Other than on the
- 9 oral argument, do you have a list of the issues yet?
- 10 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Your Honor, I don't at this
- 11 time. What we will do, as is custom, our fine
- 12 assistants will be forwarding those matters to your
- 13 office in a time consistent with meeting the notice
- 14 requirements.
- JUDGE WALLACE: Okay. What we will do, as
- 16 normal, is go ahead and send out the notice of oral
- 17 argument followed up by the other details then.
- 18 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Very well. Thank you.
- 19 Very well. That being said, are there
- any other matters, Judge?
- JUDGE WALLACE: No, sir.
- 22 CHAIRMAN FLORES: Okay. Hearing none, this

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meeting then stands adjourned. Commissioners, thank
1
     you very much. Hope you guys have a great day. See
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3
     you soon.
                           (Whereupon, the meeting was
4
                            adjourned.)
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